

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 EUR-08 NEA-07 ARA-06
EA-06 INR-05 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 L-01 PRS-01
PA-01 EB-03 PM-03 SP-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 USIA-01
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FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3426

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1351

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECOSOC, EGEN, UN
SUBJ: RESTRUCTURING OF THE ESA DEPARTMENT OF THE UN

FOR IO ASST SEC MAYNES AND DEP ASST SEC FRANK

1. SINCE RETURNING TO NEWYORK SUNDAY PM, MINCON KITCHEN HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY FOR SEVERAL INTERESTING AND EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH BUREAU AND SECRETARIAT ON SUBJECT OF CURRENT SESSION OF AD HOC COMITE ON RESTRUCTURING.
2. THE PROGNOSIS IS NOT POSITIVE AT ALL. UNLESS WE HAVE OVERRIDING REASONS TO PRESS FOR SIGNIFICANT REFORMS AT THIS JUNCTURE AND ARE FURTHER PREPARED TO PRESS FOR THEIR ADOPTION, THE AMALGAM OF FRANCO/G-77/SECRETARIAT OPPOSITION MAY WELL REDUCE THIS EXERCISE TO THE STATEMENT OF A FEW VAGUE PRINCIPLES AND A RESULTANT MAINTENANCE OF THE STRUCTURAL STATUS QUO.
3. IN A LONG CONVERSATION WITH AD HOC COMITE CHAIRMAN (AMB DADZIE, GHANA) MONDAY PM, NOTES WERE COMPARED RE BACKGROUND DISCUSSIONS TAKING PLACE IN CORRIDORS BEFORE
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THE AD HOC COMITE GOES PUBLIC. DADZIE CONFIRMS THAT THE FRENCH ARE GOING ALL OUT TO MAINTAIN THE CURRENT INTEGRITY OF ESA IN PROTECTION OF THEIR HIGHEST RANKING SECRETARIAT NATIONAL, VAN LAETHAM. THEY ARE DOING SO BY ARGUING THAT WE (US) HAVE NOT DROPPED ANY RADICAL PROPOSALS IN HOPPER AND THAT, APART FROM OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES, OUR REFORMS IN ESSENCE AMOUNT TO A MAINTENANCE OF

THE STATUS QUO. AT THE SAME TIME WITHIN THE G-77, THE TUNISIANS HAVE DUG IN AND ARE ESSENTIALLY ARGUING THAT NO CHANGE IN EITHER SUBSTANCE OR FORM OF THE ESA SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT THIS TIME. THIS IS EASILY SEEN AS SUPPORT OF THEIR TOP RANKING NATIONAL (GHERAB, TUNISIA) AND HIS FURTHER EFFORTS TO BUTTRESS OBJECTIONS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL HIMSELF TO PARTS OF THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT REPORT (CRP/CH./2/REV.1) IN PARTICULAR THAT PART WHICH ASTERISKS IN THE POSSIBILITY OF A DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, I.E., A DE FACTO DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL.

4. THE INDIANS, AND TO A LESSER DEGREE THE SRI LANKANS, ARE ALSO MOVING INCREASINGLY TOWARD A STATUS QUO POSTURE. AGAIN THIS POLITICAL PLOY IS HEAVILY CONDITIONED BY THE INCREASING AGITATION OF C.V. NARASIMHAN WHO FEELS THREATENED IN HIS PRESENT POST EVEN AS (A) HIS CONTRACT EXPIRES AND (B) HE SHOPS AROUND FOR GREENER PASTURES. FYI, AMB DADZIE HAD EARLIER REQUESTED THAT NARASIMHAN AND OTHER SENIOR UN STAFF NOT BE EXTENDED IN THEIR PRESENT ASSIGNMENTS BEYOND THE SUBMISSION OF THE AD HOC COMITE REPORT. HIS APPEAL WAS INTENDED TO FREE THE HANDS OF THE SYG IN CASE OF PERSONNEL ADJUSTMENTS BY THE REPORT ITSELF.

5. BY REASON OF NON-EXPERTISE AND/OR INABILITY TO WORK OUT INDIVIDUAL POSITIONS, AND THE LOSS OF SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF PERSONS WHO HAVE FOLLOWED THIS EXERCISE FOR THE PAST FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS, MOST DELS ARE NOT WEDDED
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TO EITHER THE STATUS QUO OR REFORM. THEREFORE, A VACUUM EXISTS WHICH IS FOR THE MOMENT BEING EFFECTIVELY FILLED BY THE PROTAGONISTS MENTIONED ABOVE. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT THE ACC IS CONSIDERABLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THE CHAIRMAN'S INTERIM PAPER AND BY HIS FAILURE TO ACCEPT AN INVITATION TO APPEAR BEFORE THEM AT THEIR LAST MEETING.

6. THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT GA RESOLUTION 3362 (S-7) WAS ITSELF THE CULMINATION OF MORE THAN FOUR YEARS OF FRUSTRATION IN WHICH IT HAS BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE VERY MUCH IN THE WAY OF CONSENSUS ON ANY REFORM/ OF THE CPC OR ESA. THE PRESENT EXERCISE HAS NOW PROCEEDED FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS IN A CHECK AND BALANCE ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH POLITICAL POSTURE AND SUBSTANCE HAVE OVERSHADOWED THE ISSUE OF RATIONALIZATION. IF THE PRESENT EXERCISE BOGS DOWN AND A CONSENSUS EMERGES THAT THE COMITE SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED BEYOND ITS PRESENT MANDATE, ONE CONCLUDES THAT THERE WILL BE A CONSIDERABLE HIATUS

BEFORE THE ISSUE OF RATIONALIZATION AND RESTRUCTURING
CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE FRONT BURNER AGAIN.

7. FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT THE US MAY VERY WELL LOSE
SIGNIFICANT ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROGRAMMING POSTS IN THE
UN SYSTEM OVER THE NEXT 12 TO 18 MONTHS. WHEN COUPLED
WITH THE NUMBER AND VARIETY OF COMPLICATED ACTIVITIES
FOR WHICH WE SHALL INEVITABLY BE PRINCIPAL DONOR AND A
SIGNIFICANT POLICY VOICE, PROSPECTS ARE THAT THERE WILL
BE A MUCH MORE COMPLICATED MANAGEMENT, PROGRAMMING,
COORDINATION AND POLICY ROLE FOR THE USG.

8. COMMENT: THE CONTINUED PROLIFERATION OF THE UN
SYSTEM AND THE SUBSEQUENT FRUSTRATION ON THE PART OF BOTH
DONOR AND RECIPIENT STATES LEAD TO THE FEELING THAT THE
USG SHOULD GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO A TURNABOUT IN
WHAT SEEMS TO BE DEVELOPING. WE WILL BE IN A BETTER POSI-
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TION TO ASSESS ACTIONS AFTER THE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS
SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE PM MAY 3.

LEONARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: EGEN, AORG, US, ECOSOC, UN, ISA
To: STATE
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